

SENATE WATCH

A summary of today's Senate actions; published daily when the Senate is in session.

12/1/04

DISCHARGE MOTION

SB 40 (Hammerstrom)

SB 40 would allow no-reason absentee voting. The bill is sponsored by Republican Floor Leader Hammerstrom and is cosponsored by 9 Republicans (all of whom voted against the discharge motion) and 9 Democrats (all of whom voted for the motion).

• The motion to discharge SB 40 was defeated [RC 819: 15 yes (DEMS), 22 no (GOP)].

BUDGETS

SB 1193 (Johnson)

Zero-based School Aid budget

- Jelinek 1 (S-2) was adopted.
- SB 1193 was moved to 3rd Reading.
- SB 1193 passed [RC 828: 37 yes, 0 no].

FINAL PASSAGE

SB 72 (Sanborn)

SB 72 would creates the pregnant and parenting student services fund within the Dept. of Treasury and administered through the Dept. of Community Health to provide grants to encourage institutions of higher education to establish and operate an office to assist students with pregnancy and parenting issues. Abortion referrals could not be provided.

Oppose: MI-NOW, NASW -- object to the "gag rule" against offering abortion information.

• SB 72 passed [RC 829: 26 yes, 8 no].

HB 4450 (Hoogendyk)

HB 4450 would allow the Secretary of State to issue personalized military veteran specialty license plates. Those who have served in the military may obtain specialty veteran plates in recognition of their service to the

United States. Because personalized license plates already are available to the general public, it would be fitting to extend the personalization option to veteran plates. The bill would accommodate the wishes of those who selflessly served this country. A personalized veteran plate would both honor the veteran and express his or her individuality.

• HB 4450 passed with IE [RC 826: 37 yes, 0 no].

HB 5544 (Julian)

HB 5544 would increase from 5,000 pounds to 8,000 pounds the maximum weight of a pickup truck or van which can get a handicapped parking permit.

• HB 5544 passed with IE [RC 827: 37 yes, 0 no].

HB 5550 (BROWN) HB 5657 (Huizenga)

SB 1409 (passed yesterday), HB 5550, and HB 5657 are necessary so that digitally stored / electronic documents can be used as official documents in government/judicial proceedings. Current law needs to be updated to account for technological improvements.

Support: HAL, Michigan Association of Counties, Secretary of State.

HB 5550:

• HB 5550 passed with IE [RC 823: 37 yes, 0 no].

HB 5657:

• HB 5657 passed with IE [RC 822: 37 yes, 0 no].

HB 5832 (RIVET)

HB 5832 would amend the requirements that must be met when creating a form of mortgages of real estate. The bill would clarify that when worded correctly a mortgage would be a valid and enforceable mortgage (currently good and sufficient mortgage) to the grantee, and the grantee's heirs, assigns, successors, and personal representatives with warranty from the grantor and the grantor's legal representatives, of marketable title (currently perfect title) in the grantor, free from prior encumbrances (currently against all pervious encumbrances).

Support: Michigan Bankers Association, Office of Financial and Insurance Services.

• HB 5832 passed with IE [RC 824: 37 yes, 0 no].

HB 5971 (Ruth Johnson)

HB 5971 would extend governmental immunity to treatment provided by an uncompensated "tactical operation medical assistant". This applies to individuals that are licensed to practice medicine, osteopathic medicine or surgery or is registered professional nurse; or an emergency medical technician (EMT), an EMT specialist, or a paramedic. A tactical operation would mean an action of law enforcement that was taken to deal with imminent violence, a riot, an act of terrorism, or similar civic emergency; or entry into a building or area to arrest or seize evidence in a drug crime.

• HB 5971 passed with IE [RC 825: 37 yes, 0 no].

HB 6172 (Milosch)

HB 6172 would specify that an indictment for identity theft or attempted identity theft could be found and filed within six years.

• HB 6172 passed with IE [RC 821: 37 yes, 0 no].

THIRD READING

HB 4868 (JAMNICK)

HB 4868 would prohibit manufactured housing park owners from impeding a resident's right: 1) To sell his home within a park; to remove his home from the park solely based upon a sale or proposed sale or, to require a resident to remove a home from a park for the purpose of renovating or modernizing the park. 2) To prohibit the use of a "for sale" sign within the park, although the park owner could impose restrictions on the size and location of signs. 3) To place a maximum of two (2) political signs on their site. Restrictions by the park owner cannot be greater that those in local ordinance. 4) Park owners also would be required to notify residents 90 days in advance prior to increasing any fee.

11/10:

- *Committee 1 (S-4) was defeated.*
- BASHAM 2 (S-5) was adopted.
- HB 4868 was moved to 3rd Reading.

12/1:

- Toy 1 (1 amend) was withdrawn.
- Toy 1 (1 amend) was adopted [RC 820: 24 yes, 13 no].
- HB 4868 was passed for the day.

HB 5415 (DeRossett)

HB 5415 would allow a local unit of government to terminate a plant rehabilitation district or an industrial development district by resolution if no tax abatement certificates are in effect on the date of the termination resolution. The bill would require the local governmental unit to give at least 14 days written notice to the owners of all real property within the plant rehabilitation district or industrial development district and hold a public hearing on the termination.

- Committee 1 (1 amend) was adopted.
- HB 5415 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 5645 (Caul)

HB 5645 would require a register of deeds to appoint an individual to serve as the chief deputy of the register of deeds. With the approval of the county board of commissioners, the register of deeds could appoint one or more deputies whom he or she considered necessary to perform the functions and duties of the office of the register of deeds. Currently, the register of deeds must appoint one deputy.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted.
- Cropsey 1A (1 amend) was adopted.
- HB 5645 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 5656 (Ward)

HB 5656 would prohibit the Department of Management and Budget from requiring an architect, professional engineer, or contractor with whom it enters into a contract to assume any liability or indemnify to the State for any amount greater than the architect's, professional engineer's, or contractor's degree of fault.

• HB 5656 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

HB 6101 (Caswell)

HB 6101 would convey approximately 5.3 acres of State-owned land in Branch County to Coldwater Township for \$1. The property is currently under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections next to the Lakeland Correctional Facility and is adjacent to a parcel previously conveyed by the State to Coldwater Township.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was defeated. Jelinek 2 (S-2) was adopted.
- HB 6101 was moved to 3rd Reading.